

# PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

2016 Annual Report



DIGNITY
FAMILY concern
GENEROSITY
Involved EDUCATION
dependable
TRUST



Honoring Our Volunteers



#### MESSAGE FROM THE SHERIFF

It is my distinct privilege to present our annual report for 2016. This represents what will be my last full year at the helm of this amazing organization. It has been the honor of my lifetime to be allowed to come to work for this agency for the last 43 years; 22-plus years as Sheriff.

As you will glean from this document, this is a remarkable place made up of amazing people. There is a management school of thought that resonated with me years ago. It is called O.P.C., Only People Count, and as I look back in the rearview mirror of my career, more often than not, that has been the case in the Placer County Sheriff's Office. With the public we serve, only people count. With our amazing law enforcement partners and to the civic leaders we are privileged to work with, only people count. With

our beloved employees and their extended families, past and present, only people count. Because, at the end of the day, on any call we take or respond to, no matter what technological advances have occurred, it is the person-to-person interaction that is important. Right now this organization and its employees act every day in service to the community knowing it is the people that we are called to assist that count. They perform their duties as a team. I hope that this report gives you some additional insight into this organization and the men and women who make up my colleagues, my associates and my dear friends.

### MESSAGE FROM UNDERSHERIFF BELL

As 2016 comes to an end, I cannot help but to reflect on the overarching mission of the Sheriff's Office. At its core, our mission is to provide a service. Our ability to provide service to our community hinges on our most valuable resource; our people. Our sworn, professional and volunteer staff is the heart and soul of the organization and, at the end of the day, is the most critical component to our success.

This year's annual report provides a sampling of that service, including a couple of Search and Rescue events that were life-altering for those involved. These events exploded on social media and served to validate the importance of the mission and the reputation of our Search and Rescue team. They are simply the best!

We continued hiring virtually all classifications at an unprecedented pace. Our goal has

been, and continues to be, never settling for mediocrity. We strive to hire candidates that meet the highest standards of professionalism and integrity. This is not always an easy task. It takes time and dedication; however, if we compromise standards, the organization and the community suffer.

2016 marked Sheriff Bonner's announcement of his looming retirement. As an agency, we knew this day would come. Although Sheriff Bonner has created a succession plan, that certainly doesn't make his decision any easier. The Placer County Sheriff's Office has been a labor of love for him and he has been instrumental in creating an organization that provides exemplary service while focusing on relationships and family. I am proud to have worked for a man of such integrity. By maintaining our culture of family-centered service, we all can continue to honor his vision for the Placer County Sheriff's Office.



# SHERIFF'S COMMAND STAFF

Sheriff Edward N. Bonner

#### **Undersheriff Devon Bell**



Field Operations

Commander



Corrections Division
Commander



Support Services

Division Commander



North Lake Tahoe
Commander



Administrative Services Manager

































#### CALLS FOR SERVICE

In 2016, Dispatch Services handled a total of 110,308 law calls for service, a ten percent increase over 2015. It was an average of 302 calls per day, and an average of 9,192 calls per month. Additionally, dispatch handled more than 12,000 fire calls for service.

Deputies responded to a total of 69,501 calls for service, an increase of 8.5 percent over 2015. This is an average of 190 calls per day and 5,791 calls per month.



Some of our dispatchers were honored at the California State Capitol in 2016



#### ARREST DATA

2016 Arrest Totals	3,451
Felony Arrests	1,420
Misdemeanor Arrests	2,031
Arrest Categories	Counts
Domestic Violence	165
Crimes Against Persons	1,134
Property Crimes	437
Drug Offenses	734
Driving Under Influence	153
Public Order	351
Traffic	91
Warrants	386



#### NORTH LAKE TAHOE

In the spring of 2016, we launched our newest law enforcement tool on Lake Tahoe, Marine 6. Its mission is boating and recreational safety for the thousands who come from around the globe to enjoy Lake Tahoe's unmatched beauty.

The 35-foot Moose Boat's catamaran has 700 horsepower and is equipped with state-of-the-art instrumentation. It's top speed is 44 mph.

## SOCIAL MEDIA SUCCESS

Our social media success grew by leaps and bounds in 2016. We created a social media team, which consists of 25 employees, all equipped with cell phones. When they find great photo opportunities or great stories, they seize the opportunity to share with our more than 35,000 followers! By the end of 2016, we frequently reached 250,000 people per week on our Facebook page alone. We also increased our presence on Instagram and Twitter, and we now have thousands of followers on both of those platforms.

We continued to use social media to identify criminals caught on video or surveillance photos. In nearly every instance, citizens responded and helped us identify and arrest suspects. Placer County Crime Stoppers, a non-profit group that pays cash for anonymous tips, received dozens more tips than in the past because their contact information is included on our social media posts when we're asking the public's help in identifying someone.

We constantly continue to expand our presence, and hopefully our audience, on all of our social media platforms.

Unbeknownst to Deputy Bracco, below, he was photographed escorting this nearly blind woman to her home. Bracco had just arrived at the South Placer Substation for duty, when he noticed the woman walking alone and offered to walk with her. This was one of our most "liked" Facebook posts of 2016! Community policing at its best!





Deputy Bliss, pictured at left, found this homeless man behind a shopping center and because it was a hot day, he offered him some water.

Bliss's partner captured the moment, which was very popular on Facebook and Instagram.



Deputy Buckley and Chase entertained a lot of children at events throughout the year. Our dogs are very popular on social media; whenever we post their photos, we know the "likes" will go way up!

## VOLUNTEERS

Our Search and Rescue volunteers donated an amazing 20,106 hours to the Placer County Sheriff's Office in 2016. More than 4,000 of those hours were spent on searches, while nearly 11,000 hours were spent training. The remaining hours included making presentations to the public.

Placer County Sheriff's Search and Rescue volunteers are responsible for saving so many lives. In May, 2016, they led the days-long search for lost hiker Cody Michael after he went backpacking in the local mountains. Cody and his dog Bauer, were found four days later, safe and uninjured. It was a massive search, with dozens of teams from all over the state assisting.

Our STAR (Sheriff's Team of Active Residents) volunteers logged more than 6,000 hours. STAR volunteers patrol in clearly marked "volunteer" vehicles; they work in our offices; they work special events that require traffic control and staffing; and so much more. We are so grateful for our volunteers, who give so generously of their time to help us in our mission.



Cody Michael and Bauer



Steve Wolf, pictured at left, is a highly experienced hiker who has been a member of our Search and Rescue for 10 years. On August 9, 2016, Steve was shot in the hip while on a search for a man reported missing in a very rugged canyon area in Nevada County. It took rescuers several hours to get to Steve, due to the harsh terrain. Miraculously, he survived and didn't suffer permanent damage — especially considering that the bullet lodged near his spine. He endured two surgeries, but he was soon up and about, taking walks with his wife, Kathie. She said that it was a challenge to keep Steve moving slow for a while!

Steve said he'd return to Search and Rescue as soon as he was able. In fact, the day he was released from the hospital, he insisted on attending a Placer County search debriefing! Steve defines the type of person who gives so much of themselves to others. We are happy to report that Steve made a complete recovery, and was back to working search and rescue missions by early 2017.

### OUR DOGS AT WORK





K-9 Chase, who is owned and handled by Deputy Josh Buckley, had a very successful year of sniffing out drugs! Chase's keen nose was called upon many times over the year, and he located hundreds of pounds of marijuana that were being driven over Donner Summit on Interstate 80. Buckley and Chase work out of our North Lake Tahoe station.

#### INVESTIGATIO





In 2016, Special Operations detectives stayed very busy locating and eradicating illegal marijuana grows and dangerous butane honey oil labs. In total, they uprooted 21,130 marijuana plants, found 354 pounds of processed marijuana, three pounds of black tar heroin, and processed butane oil.

They also put on a large-scale drug and alcohol abuse prevention program called "The Right Choice," and were able to reach more than 700 middle school students.

The high-tech crimes detectives investigated more that 150 electronic devices, and unearthed two major child pornography cases. Arrests were made in both cases.

#### PROBLEM-ORIENTED POLICII

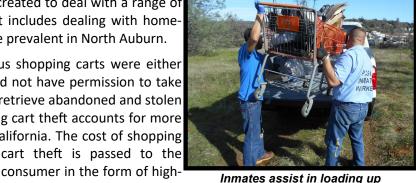
er prices for goods and ser-

life for local residents.

The Placer County Sheriff's Office Homeless Liaison Deputy Team grew from one to four full-time deputies in 2016. The team was created to deal with a range of community problems and crime prevention. That includes dealing with homeless and transient-related issues that have become prevalent in North Auburn.

In the summer, team members noticed numerous shopping carts were either abandoned or in possession of individuals who did not have permission to take the carts. So the team conducted an operation to retrieve abandoned and stolen shopping carts in the North Auburn area. Shopping cart theft accounts for more than \$14 million in annual loss to businesses in California. The cost of shopping

Our Homeless Liaison Deputy Team: Robert Bliss, Jason Lippert, Brian Harris and Michael Beggs



shopping carts



## OUR MISSION

The mission of the Placer County Sheriff's Office is to maintain the quality of life we enjoy and to ensure our county is a safe place to live, work and visit.

This will be accomplished through safeguarding individual liberties, building community partnerships through transparency and education, preventing crime and resolving those crimes that do occur.

We are also responsible for the professional care and custody of those confined within our jail facilities. Other duties include those of marshal, security of the courts, and efficient investigation of coroner cases.

We are committed to this mission and conduct our responsibilities toward a goal of excellence and with dedication to the community we serve.

## CORE VALUES

We will constantly strive to meet the highest standards of *honesty* and *integrity*.

We are a family-centered organization committed to supporting one another.

We have *pride* in ourselves and take *ownership* of our work.

All Sheriff's Office members will treat each other with *dignity, courtesy,* and *respect,* regardless of position or assignment. This leads to identical treatment of the public we serve.

We are involved in our community and seek to become a part of the world we serve.

We will achieve *professional* performance through continual *training*, *education*, and *commitment* to our duties.

Management and subordinates are mutually accountable for their performance.

There will be no tolerance for criminal misconduct by Sheriff's Office members, on or off-duty. Such conduct will **consistently** be presented for legal review.

#### PLACER COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



#### Headquarters

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